

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/AT 03/00150A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 B23K11/30

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 B23K B32B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

PAJ, EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 552 573 A (OKITA TOMIHARU ET AL) 3 September 1996 (1996-09-03) cited in the application column 3, line 33-57	1-4, 7
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1995, no. 03, 28 April 1995 (1995-04-28) -& JP 06 344149 A (FURUKAWA ALUM CO LTD; OTHERS: 02), 20 December 1994 (1994-12-20) abstract paragraphs '0007!, '0008!	5, 6, 8, 9
X		1, 2, 4, 6, 7
A		3, 5, 8, 9
		—/—

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority, claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *&* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
17 November 2003	18. 12. 2003
Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer Jaeger, H

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1998, no. 06, 30 April 1998 (1998-04-30) -& JP 10 029071 A (FURUKAWA ELECTRIC CO LTD:THE), 3 February 1998 (1998-02-03) cited in the application abstract	10-17
A		1-9, 18
X	DE 15 65 782 A (SCIAKY DAVID) 26 March 1970 (1970-03-26) page 4, paragraph 5 page 5, paragraph 2	10, 12-15, 19
X	US 5 973 287 A (TAKANO YUKINORI) 26 October 1999 (1999-10-26) column 5, line 65 -column 6, line 13; figure 1	20-22
X	CH 466 451 A (SCHLATTER AG) 15 December 1968 (1968-12-15) column 2, line 7 column 2, line 39	10, 12, 13, 15, 18, 20-22
X	BE 839 697 A (CENTRE RECH METALLURGIQUE) 16 July 1976 (1976-07-16) page 4, paragraph 2 page 5, paragraph 5 figure 2	20, 21
X	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1996, no. 09, 30 September 1996 (1996-09-30) -& JP 08 118037 A (FURUKAWA ELECTRIC CO LTD:THE), 14 May 1996 (1996-05-14) cited in the application abstract	10-15
A		1-9, 16-19

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Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:

3. Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

See supplemental box

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.



No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

The International Searching Authority has determined that this international application contains multiple (groups of) inventions, namely

1. Claims 1-9

bimetallic protective strip for electrodes used in resistance welding.

2. Claims 10-19

pressure element for holding down workpieces or guiding electrode protective strips.

3. Claims 20-22

resistance welding method with mechanical detection of tool contact with workpiece.

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Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)		Publication date
US 5552573	A	03-09-1996	NONE			
JP 06344149	A	20-12-1994	JP	2744750 B2		28-04-1998
JP 10029071	A	03-02-1998	NONE			
DE 1565782	A	26-03-1970	DE	1565782 A1		26-03-1970
US 5973287	A	26-10-1999	JP	11005175 A		12-01-1999
CH 466451	A	15-12-1968	NONE			
BE 839697	A	16-07-1976	BE	839697 A1		16-07-1976
			DE	2657889 A1		07-07-1977
JP 08118037	A	14-05-1996	NONE			